

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action dated June 17, 2004, claims 1-20 were pending. Claims 1-3 and 10-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Stridsberg, U.S. Patent No. 6,191,415) ("Stridsberg").

Claims 4-9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 17-20 were withdrawn as directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed.

In this response, claims 4 and 17-20 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 5-6, 8, 10, and 16 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Specifically, independent claim 1 has been amended to include substantially all limitations of objected claim 4. Objected claim 8 has been amended to be an independent claim including substantially all limitations of its base claim. Independent claim 10 has been amended to include an allowable subject matter indicated by the Examiner. Thus, independent claims 1, 8, and 10 are allowable. Given that the rest of the claims depend from one of the above independent claims, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition of allowance. While Applicant does not concede that the Examiner's position is correct on the merits, Applicant has sought to obtain the claims which were objected to.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite

or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date: 9/17/2004

K. G. Shao
Kevin G. Shao
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 45,095

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300